



THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GAINSBOROUGH.

ANNUAL REPORT of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1938.

Caskgate Street,
Gainsborough.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Sir, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of your district.

SECTION A.

The area of the district is 78,598 acres. The estimated population is 10,160.
The rateable value is £25,829. The estimated product of a penny rate for the year ending 31st March, 1940, is £123.
It is a purely rural area, the industries and social conditions are quite rural.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female		Total	Male	Female
Live Births	146	78	68	Still Births	2	—	2
Legitimate		74	64	Legitimate		—	2
Illegitimate		4	4	Illegitimate		—	—

The birth rate is 14.370007. Still births per 1,000 ,13.51.

Deaths at all ages: Males 79, Females 52.

The death rate $12.8937 \times 0.82 = 10.5698$.

The causes of death:—

Disease	Male	Female
Other liver disease		2
Other digestive disease	3	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	2	1
Congenital Debility and Prematurity	3	
Senility	1	2
Suicide	1	
Other Violence	15	2
Other Defined Disease	5	4
Diabetes	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	5	2
Heart Disease	14	15
Other Circulatory Disease	3	4
Bronchitis	1	1
Pneumonia, all forms	6	1
Other Respiratory Disease		1
Peptic Ulcer	1	
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)		1
Appendicitis	1	
Measles		1
Whooping Cough	1	
Influenza	1	
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	3
Cancer	10	10
	79	52
Deaths from Puerperal Causes ...		nil

Death rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births, 47.94. Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 50.73.

Deaths from Cancer, all ages	20
Deaths from Measles, all ages	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough, all ages ...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age	1

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (a) One part-time Medical Officer of Health.
(b) One Sanitary Inspector.
2. (a) Laboratory facilities. Swabs and sputa are sent to the County Laboratory for investigation.
(b) Ambulance facilities. The Urban district Isolation Hospital has an ambulance which is used to collect cases from the rural district when required and the town ambulance can be utilised for ordinary cases by arrangement.
(c) Nursing. There are district nurses in several of the villages.
(d) Treatment clinics—none.
(e) Hospitals—Joint user of Urban District Council Isolation Hospital under County Council Scheme.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

A scheme is under consideration to provide a piped supply of good water for the district. Where new houses have been built, unless the well water, where such exists, is good and plentiful, underground cisterns to conserve the rain water supply are built.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There is no extension of the sewerage. The sewage disposal in the area is carefully supervised.

Drains examined and repaired	8
Drains reconstructed	3

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The pollution of the river Trent remains as before.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No. of premises	2
Inspections	8
Contravention of bye-laws	nil

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary Conditions of the Schools is fairly good. If any case of infectious disease should occur, it is reported by the head teacher and the condition is investigated.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1.—Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year:—

- 1 (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 261
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose 320
- 2 (a) Number of dwellinghouses included under above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 nil
(b) No. of Inspections made for the purpose nil

3	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	71
4	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to above), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	60
2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notice:—		
	Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	45
3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—		
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2)	Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :	
(a)	By owners	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Act :	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	nil
(2)	Number of houses in which defects were remedied after formal notice:—	
(a)	By owners	nil
(b)	By Local Authority	nil
(c)	Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	47
(2)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	2
4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.		
(a)	(1) Number of houses overcrowded at end of the year	14
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	14
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	67
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... None by Local Authority	
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a)	MILK SUPPLY. This is good.	
	Number of Milk Shops on the register	233
	Number of Inspections	238
	Number of Cowsheds	264
	Number of Inspections	470
	Contraventions of Regulations found and remedied	38
(b)	MEAT. There are 17 Slaughterhouses, but only 9 in use.	
	Carcases inspected and condemned :	
(a)	All diseases except tuberculosis :	
	Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	nil
(b)	For tuberculosis only :	
	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3
	Whole carcase	1

SECTION F.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

The total is 22. This is the lowest total since 1917 and in those years pneumonia was not notifiable.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	3		
Diphtheria	3	3	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1		
Pneumonia	8		
Poliomyelitis	4	3	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2		

Age incidence:—

Disease.	Under 1yr.	1yr.	2yrs.	3yrs.	4yrs.	5yrs.	10yrs.	15yrs.	20yrs.	35yrs.	45yrs.	65yrs.+
Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
Diphtheria .....	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1
Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...

OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Measles, Chickenpox, Mumps and Whooping Cough occurred at times in varying parts of the district but were not in serious epidemics.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Period.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
5 years	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
15 "	...	2	1	...	1	1	...	...
25 "	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
35 "	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 "	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
55 "	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65+ "	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Total	3	5	1	1	3	3	...	...

5 cases of notified Tuberculosis were transferred into the district.

Again I record my thanks to your Sanitary Inspector for his help and co-operation.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

H. B. WILLOUGHBY SMITH,
M.O.H.

